201 LTF FRG NEWS BRIEF

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KODIAK'S CORNER

"Battle Support"

Hello Vilseck!! Once again this was a very productive week for the Company. Even though the weather hasn't been very good (snow, rain, cold) we are all doing fine. The training highlight for this week was slingload training with the Aviation Battalion on 14 DEC. Also, ACS provided a personal finance class to the soldiers on 14 DEC.

VIP visits this week included the Sergeant Major of the Army on 9 DEC, and BG Keefe on 14 DEC. Some lucky soldiers received coins from both the Sergeant Major of the Army and BG Keefe during their visits.

We are continuing to send soldiers to military school. This week SPC Williams graduated from SAM 31 (small arms armor course). SSG Boarders graduated from LOG 215 (maintenance management course).

Congratulations to the following soldiers:

PFC Richard Spencer was promoted on 9 DEC.

SPC Al Kennedy received an ARCOM for his hard work and dedication during the Mission Readiness Exercise conducted in September.

SPC Ralph Cole: December Soldier of the Month

BRAVO BLADE

Good day to you all in Vilseck, greetings from Kosovo. We've passed one more week and I'd have to say that we have settled ourselves into the Kosovo routine. We do have something new coming up this week to break-up the routine; a Change of Command inventory. All of the sections are preparing to put their best foot forward for CPT Benjamin Sheehan to take his first look at them. I know they will impress him as much as they have impressed me over the last 20 months. Just because the inventories are starting doesn't mean that I'm slowing down and looking to move on. This is probably going to be the hardest part of my command. Watching each day as someone else is preparing to take over.

The weather has kept us on our toes here lately. We started the week off extremely cold and miserable. Getting up for PT in the morning was even harder than usual; no one looks forward to doing physical training in the freezing weather. The platoons have done an outstanding job of adapting and finding creative ways of still doing PT; from going inside the empty bays in the morning to adapting their times to do aerobics in the evening. One of the advantages of being here all day every day is that you do not have to be locked into the same routine everyday. Besides, it usually works best not to be locked into the same routine day after day.

Please send comments and suggestions of Would like to see or hear about in the futu

I'll bid my goodbye for another week and prepare to get more sentimental as my time comes to an end.

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CLEANING CREW

The cleaning crew took two soldiers hostage the other day. Here is some exclusive footage of them clinging to their captives. It was a tense two hour stand off, but we finally convinced them to release the hostages by offering them some gingerbread cookies that we found in a care package. See, your care packages do come in useful after all.

BG KEEFE VISITS 201st

The 201st hosted BG Keefe for an hour and a half on Saturday the 14th to familiarize the General in our operations in the MNB-E. The General was very pleased with the outstanding and professional spirit displayed by all the members of the 201st.

SMA TILLEY VISITS CBS

The Sergeant Major of the Army, SMA Tilley, visited Camp Bondsteel on Tuesday. He addressed all of the NCOs in the camp theater and shared his vision on the Army transformation and issues such as uniforms and pay. SSG Johnson and SGT Canales were presented a coin by the SMA.

SMA Tilley is among the many VIPs we expect to see here in Kosovo. Our soldiers will have many opportunities to

JUNIOR LEADER TEACH

If you were wondering what it looks like at 0730 in the morning on Bondsteel, wonder no longer. It's dark. Very, very dark. Here are the future leaders of the Army. Select soldiers from SPC to SGT spent Saturday with the CSM and senior NCOs going back to basics, and learning leadership fundamentals such as counseling and physical fitness. The CSM of the 201st, CSM Frey, hosted an NCO dinner on Friday to talk with the

LETTERS FROM KOSOVO

Every week the news letter staff will invite two soldiers to share a letter home with the Battalion and their family. It's a great way to share news and interests they have and let folks back home know that we are thinking of you and we miss you!

Hello DISCOM,
My name James S. Colquiett, HHC 201st. I am currently deployed in Kosovo, attached to 201st working in the SPO shop. The living conditions here are great. We have a 24-hour gym, and also an 24-hour dining facility. Physical Training down here is a must, so rain, sleet, or snow we are doing PT six days a week. MWR is excellent. They have different activities going on every week to keep our morale up. This is my first deployment

SPC PUSHKAL

Hello Vilseck,
My name is Joseph G. Pushkal; Bravo Company's training NCO. I am currently deployed in Kosovo, Camp Bondsteel. I maintain the company's training records and stats, which consists of physical fitness training records, weapons, and all the schools Bravo Company's soldiers attend. My days are long, and while maintaining the company's records on a daily basis, I also have vehicles to maintain. Ok, enough about work, I do it all day.

The living conditions here in Kosovo are not too bad. There are 3 to 4 soldiers in a room that will hold 8. Most of the facilities here in Camp Bondsteel are open 24hrs a day, and the ones that are not are open till 1930. MWR is one of those facilities that is open 24hrs, so making phone calls back home is never a problem. When I am not working, I usually spend most of my time in the gym lifting weights or running on the treadmill (Gets rid of all that stress that builds up during the day). It has snowed here for the last couple of days, and yes